

From: Benjamin Davies
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/9/01 9:38pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I fear that the US DOJ's settlement with Microsoft has a huge deficiency in regard to not for profit entities. If the goal in this entire court proceedings is to aid consumers then I fail to see why safeguards should only be applied to commercial situations. That sounds more like a quest to aid industry and economy. For example, if a university or scientific foundation were striving towards a certain advance that required them to work with existing software (work with meaning design for or change of) they could be excluded access from Microsoft code when rival, commercial, entities could not. Microsoft was found guilty. While this does not mean they cannot be trusted it means that they should be prevented from obvious avenues of similar actions. Under the current settlement it would be possible to exclude, in a similar fashion as they exclude Netscape, all not for profit entities. Please take note of this and amend the settlement agreement.

Sincerely,

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"How complex or simple a structure is depends critically upon the way in which we describe it."
Herbert Simon